

REMARKS

Claims 1-49, 52, 53, 56-58, 60-68 have been cancelled. Claims 50, 51, 54, 55, and 59 have been amended herein. Thus, claims 50, 51, 54, 55 and 59 are currently pending.

The Examiner has objected to claims 50, 51, 54, 55, and 59 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The remaining claims (1-49, 52, 53, 56-58, 60-68) have been rejected by the Examiner.

The Office Action has been carefully reviewed. Reconsideration of the grounds for the objection and rejections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

Response to Office Action

The applicants appreciate the Examiner's consideration of the claims and indication of allowable subject matter. As claims 1-49, 52, 53, 56-58, 60-68 have been cancelled, the rejections as to those claims are rendered moot. Claims 50, 51, 54, 55, and 59 have been amended herein to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, as suggested by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection to the pending claims and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

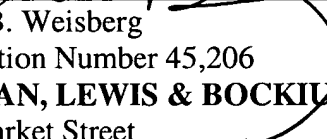
Please charge any fees due in connection with this response, including the fee due for the petition for a one-month extension of time transmitted herewith and any fees due for claims not previously paid for, to our Deposit Account No. **50-0310**.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 23, 2004

By: _____


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